

Message Text

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CEQ: J. PERRY(INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

UNCLAS STATE 078130

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: SENV, OTRA, UR, US

SUBJECT: VISIT OF SOVIET AIR POLLUTION TEAM

FOR: SCIATT

REF: MOSCOW 3316

1. REQUEST EMBASSY TRANSMIT FOLLOWING LETTER FROM DR. HERBERT WIDER TO DR. M. E. BERLYAND, CHIEF, MAIN GEOPHYSICAL OBSERVATORY, MAIN ADMINISTRATION OF THE HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL SERVICE, UL. KARBY-SHEVA 7, LENINGRAD K-18.

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2. " DEAR DR. BERLYAND: I REGRET TO LEARN THAT YOU WILL NOT BE IN THE SOVIET DELEGATION VISITING US TO DISCUSS PRESENT ACTIVITIES AND FUTURE COOPERATION IN AIR POLLUTION MODELING AND INSTRUMENTATION. AS MANY OF US ARE FAMILIAR WITH DR. ZAITSEV, WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING HIM AND HIS COLLEAGUES PETROV AND SHITSKOVA FOR THIS FIRST MEETING. OF COURSE WE WILL BE ABLE TO SEE YOU DURING OUR VISIT TO THE SOVIET UNION LATER ON, BUT WE HOPE THAT IT SOON WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR YOU TO VISIT HERE TO HAVE THE FAMILIARITY WITH OUR ACTIVITIES WHICH WILL BE INDISPENSIBLE TO YOU AS CHAIRMAN OF THE SOVIET SIDE OF OUR JOINT WORKING GROUP.

3. AS PREVIOUSLY UNDERSTOOD , WE WILL RECEIVE THE DELEGATION ON A " RECEIVING SIDE PAYS" BASIS, COVERING LODGNS AND TO INVOLVE DIVERSE DONOR NATIONS IN THE PROCESS OF RE-BUILDING THE ECONOMIES OF THOSE COUNTRIES OF INDOCHINA WHO SEEK AN END TO HOSTILITIES.

THE BANK, IN FACT, HAS ALREADY IDENTIFIED SPECIFIC PRO-JECTS IN LAOS, THE KHMER REPUBLIC AND THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AND COMMITTED FUNDS FOR THEM. OTHER PROJECTS ARE IN THE PIPE-LINE AND SHOULD BE READY FOR CONSIDERATION LATER THIS YEAR.

THE STUDY OF SOUTHEAST ASIAN ECONOMIES AND THE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION SURVEY SPONSORED BY THE BANK SHOW THE BREADTH OF ITS FILED OF ACTIVITIES. ITS EXPERTISE SHOULD AID ALL WHO MAY BECOME INVOLVED IN THE EFFORT TO BUILD FOR PEACE.

HISTORICALLY, THE UNITED STATES HAS LONG BEEN INVOLVED IN EFFORTS TO BRING STABILITY AND ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIPS WHICH TIE US CLOSELY TO THIS PART OF THE GLOBE AND ITS ENERGETIC AND PROUD PEOPLE. WE INTEND TO MAINTAIN THOSE TIES, NOT LEAST BY COOPERATING IN THE EFFORTS, SYMBOLIZED BY THE ASIAN DEVELOP-MENT BANK, TO BUILD STRONG ECONOMIES.

HAVING SAID THAT MUCH, IT IS OBVIOUS THAT, IF THE BANK IS TO PLAY ITS PART IN FURTHERING THE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS, IT MUST BE ADEQUATELY FUNDED. IN THAT RESPECT, POINTED AND LEGITIMATE QUESTIONS CAN BE DIRECTED AT THE UNITED STATES.

I OWE YOU A FULL AND FRANK EXPOSITION OF OUR POSITION.

OBVIOUSLY, AS WITH ALL NATIONS, THE ABILITY OF THE UNITED STATES TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT FINANCE INSTITUTIONS

AT ANY POINT IN TIME DEPENDS ON OUR TOTAL ECOCKONC AND FINANCIEL SITUATION. BUDGETARY PRIORITIES AND BALANCE OF PAYMENTS CONSIDERATIONS APPLY TO MY COUNTRY AS WELL AS TO YOURS. AND UNLIKE MANY OTHER COUNTRIES, THIS QUESTION OF UNCLASSIFIED

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PRIORITIES IS SUBJECT TO INDEPENDENT EXECUTIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW -- ESSENTIALLY, FUNDING REQUESTS MUST PASS A DOUBLE HURDLE.

AT HOME, THE TOTAL BUDGET HAS BEEN UNDER RIGOROUS RESTRAINT BECAUSE OF INFLATIONARY PROBLEMS. WE HAVE MADE SUBSTANTIAL CUTBACKS IN BUDGETARY ALLOCATIONS FROM EARLIER PROJECTIONS FOR A NUMBER OF DOMESTIC PROGRAMS. WE ARE NOT ABLE TO MEET ALL THE VAST DEMANDS FOR ADDED EXPENDITURES FOR SUCH PURPOSES AS CONTROLLING POLLUTION REBUILDING DECAYING CITIES, OR ASSISTING POORER AMERICAN CITIZENS -- OF WHOM THERE ARE STILL FAR TOO MANY.

AT THE SAME TIME, WHEN THE DOLLAR HAS BEEN UNDER RECURRENT ATTACK IN WORLD MARKETS, THE URGENCY OF RESTRAINING OVERSEAS SPENDING TO HELP DEAL WITH OUR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PROBLEM IS OBVIOUS.

FACED WITH THIS SITUATION, I SOMETIMES HEAR PERSONS IN LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES SAY THAT THE UNITED STATES IS A BIG AND STRONG COUNTRY; IT HAS HAD A BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DEFICIT FOR YEARS; IT SHOULD NOT WORRY ABOUT ITS BALANCE OF PAYMENTS NOW. BUT WE ARE CONCERNED -- AND WE MUST BE. WEAKNESS OF THE DOLLAR AND MONETARY INSTABILITY IS NOT IN OUR INTEREST OR YOURS. THE TIME HAS LONG SINCE COME TO END THE DEFICITS THAT UNDERLIE THAT WEAKNESS. WE HAVE MOVED TO DO SO PRIMARILY BY ACHIEVING EXCHANGE RATE AND TRADING RELATIONSHIPS THAT PERMIT US TO COMPETE EFFECTIVELY. BUT, AS PART OF THE PROCESS, NO FOREIGN EXPENDITURE CAN EXPECT TO ESCAPE SEARCHING REVIEW.

I WOULD EMPHASIZE THE PRESIDENT, IN ASSISING THESE BUDGETARY AND BALANCE OF PAYMENT CONSTRAINTS, FEELS STRONGLY THAT OUR PAST PLEDGES OF FUNDS TO THE ADB DO DESERVE PRIORITY. THE APPROPRIATION FROM THE CONGRESS FOR THE LONG- DELAYED \$100 MILLION CONTRIBUTION TO THE SPECIAL FUNDS REMAINS HIGH ON OUR AGENDA. WE ARE ALSO REQUESTING FROM THE CONGRESS AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE \$362 MILLION OF ORDINARY CAPITAL OVER A THREE- YEAR PERIOD -- AN AMOUNT THAT WOULD RESTORE OUR PREVIOUS RELATIONSHIP AMONG THE BANK'S MEMBERS. WE WILL CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR THOSE FUNDS. NEVERTHELESS, I MUST TELL YOU BLUNTLY THAT THE CONGRESSIONAL PROSPECTS -- AS UNCLASSIFIED

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CONGRESS INDEPENDENTLY EXAMINES THE PRIORITIES -- REMAIN UNCERTAIN. WE CAN BE OPTIMISTIC ONLY BY DEMONSTRATING EFFECTIVELY THIS BANK'S CRUCIAL ROLE IN BUILDING STRONGER ECONOMIES IN ASIA -- AND THUS CONTRIBUTING TO A PEACEFUL WORLD. BYROADE

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